

Claims

1. An image capture apparatus (1), characterised in that the apparatus comprises: a combined electronic camera (2) and swipe scanner (4), the electronic camera (2) having an associated optical system (8) and detector array (12) for remote capturing of a first image (46,81) and the swipe scanner (4) having an associated optical system (28) and detector array (34) for swipe capturing of a second image (38,83); and a data storage means (92) arranged to store the first image (46,81) and the second image (38,83) in association with each other.

2. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in Claim 1, in which the electronic camera (2) captures colour images and the swipe scanner (4) captures grey-scale images.

3. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in Claim 2, in which the apparatus includes means (64) for combining in registration the images with each other to form a composite image (85) that combines in at least a portion of the composite image colour from the first image (46,81) with detail from the second image (38,83).

4. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in any preceding claim, comprising a display (6) for displaying one or both of the images (46,81;38,83).

5. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in Claim 4, in which the display (6) is visible to a user of the apparatus and displays to the user the first image (81) when this is to be captured and at the same time also an associated previously captured second image (83), so that the user can capture the images (81,83) with a desired orientation with respect to each other when displayed on

the display (6).

6. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in Claim 4 or Claim 5, in which the apparatus includes means (6,64,80,82) for displaying separately at the same time both the captured first image (46,81) and the captured second image (38,83).

7. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in any preceding claim, in which the apparatus has a data output means (57,64,67) arranged to output from the apparatus (1) the first image (46,81) and second image (38,83) in association with each other.

8. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in any preceding claim, in which apparatus has data input means (7,56;52,54;62) by which annotation data (58) regarding the first image (46,81) or the second image (38,83) may be entered into the apparatus (1) in association with the first image (46,81) and/or the second image (38,83).

9. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in Claim 8, in which the data input means includes an electronic scribble pad (7).

10. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in Claim 8, in which the data input means includes a keypad (52,54).

11. An image capture apparatus (1) as claimed in Claim 8, in which the data input means includes an audio microphone (62).

12. A method using an image capture apparatus (1) that has an electronic camera (2) for remote capturing of a first image (46,81), a scanner (4) for swipe capturing of

a second image (38,83), and data storage means (92) for storing the first and second images (46,81;38,83); comprising the steps of:

- 5 a) using the electronic camera (2) to capture the first image (46,81) and the swipe scanner (4) to capture the second image (38,83); and
- b) storing (92) the first image (46,81) and second image
10 (38,83) in association with each other.